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U. S. NAVAL PROVING GROUND
DAHLGREN, VIRGINIA

REPORT NO. 1063

FRAGMENTATION OF PROJECTILES AND WARHEADS

22nd Partial Report

COMPARISON OF LETHAL FRAGMENTS FROM
BRANDT 120mm MORTAR AND 4"2 MORTAR SHELL M329

FINAL Report

Task
Assignment NPG-Re2c-35-1-52

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

PART A

SYNOPSIS

1. This analysis was undertaken to determine the relative lethal effectiveness of three types of mortar projectiles: (1) the 120mm Light Brandt, TNT loaded; (2) the 120mm Heavy Brandt, TNT loaded; and (3) the 4"2 M329, Composition B loaded.
2. Of the three types of mortar projectile evaluated, assuming similar fragment space distribution patterns, the order of lethal effectiveness is as follows:
 - a. From point of burst to 55 yards range:
 - (1) 120mm Heavy Brandt
 - (2) 4"2 M329
 - (3) 120mm Light Brandt
 - b. From 55 yards range to 250 yards range:
 - (1) 120mm Heavy Brandt
 - (2) 120mm Light Brandt
 - (3) 4"2 M329
3. It is understood that the Aberdeen Proving Ground will conduct fragmentation tests of the 4"2 M329 mortar projectile, TNT loaded, and will make lethality studies of all three types of mortars at various burst heights.

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 402 Mortar Shell M329

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

PART B

INTRODUCTION

1. AUTHORITY:

This analysis was authorized by reference (a) and conducted under Task Assignment NPG-Re2c-35-1-52, reference (b).

2. REFERENCES:

- a. BUORD Conf ltr NP9 Re2c-JSM:rjb Ser 37970 of 18 Apr 1952
- b. BUORD Conf ltr NP9 Re2c-HRK:saw Ser 23964 of 4 Aug 1951
- c. NPG Conf Report No. 968 of 6 May 1952
- d. BRL Restr Report No. 758 of May 1951
- e. BRL Restr Report No. 697 of 3 Feb 1949

3. BACKGROUND:

Reference (a) requested that the fragmentation results for the two types of 120mm Brandt mortar projectile and for the 4"2 mortar projectile M329 be evaluated and compared for lethal effectiveness. The 120mm Brandt fragmentation data were reported in reference (c) and the 4"2 M329 fragmentation data were given in enclosure (l) of reference (a).

4. OBJECT OF ANALYSIS:

This analysis was undertaken to determine the relative lethal effectiveness of three types of mortar projectile: (1) the 120mm light Brandt, TNT loaded; (2) the 120mm heavy Brandt, TNT loaded; and (3) the 4"2 M329, Composition B loaded.

5. PERIOD OF ANALYSIS:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| a. Date Project Letter | 18 April 1952 |
| b. Date Necessary Data Received | 22 April 1952 |
| c. Date Commenced Analysis | 21 May 1952 |
| d. Date Analysis Completed | 15 September 1952 |

Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

PART C

DETAILS OF ANALYSIS

6. DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS UNDER ANALYSIS:

a. Detailed descriptions of the light and heavy 120mm Brandt mortar projectiles given in reference (c) are summarized as follows:

(1) 120mm light Brandt, 5.9 lbs. explosive charge weight (mainly TNT), 28.4 lbs. total weight, 16¹/₂ length, 0¹/₂ wall thickness at forward bourrelet, and 0¹/₂ wall thickness at 1" forward of base cavity. The assembled projectile is shown in Figure 1.

(2) 120mm heavy Brandt, 9.7 lbs. explosive charge weight (mainly TNT), 37.3 lbs. total weight, 21¹/₂ length, 0¹/₂ wall thickness at forward bourrelet, and 0¹/₂ wall thickness at 1" forward of base cavity. The assembled projectile is shown in Figure 1.

b. The 4"2 mortar projectile M329, Composition B loaded, 7.8 lbs. explosive weight, 26.0 lbs. total weight, cylindrical in shape, with wall thicknesses of 0¹/₂ and 0¹/₂.

7. PROCEDURE:

a. The fragment weight group 0-0.625 grams of the 120mm light and heavy Brandt projectiles reported in reference (c) was separated into two groups, 0-0.3 grams and 0.3-0.625 grams, and recounted in order to obtain information comparable with Aberdeen data reported in enclosure (1) of reference (a).

b. The initial fragment velocities of the Brandt projectiles were estimated from the measured average velocity of the faster fragments at 15 feet range, correcting to zero range by the use of the formula employed below for calculating lethal ranges. A fragment weight of 40 grams was used for both types in making this small correction. The initial velocity for the 4"2 M329 mortar projectile, Composition B loaded, was obtained from enclosure (1) of reference (a).

Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

c. The cumulative fragment mass distribution shows the total number of fragments from each projectile with mass greater than m , where m assumes the values of the several boundaries between the fragment mass groups. If the range is such that a fragment of mass m is barely lethal, all fragments with a greater mass will be effective, and all with a smaller mass ineffective. The usual lethality criterion for personnel, that the fragment must have a kinetic energy of at least 58 foot pounds, was employed. The minimum lethal velocity for a fragment of mass m was computed, and the range at which the fragment would have this velocity derived from the equation (reference (e))

$$\log \frac{V_x}{V_0} = - \frac{.0178X}{M^{1/3}}$$

where

V_x = velocity at 58 ft./lb. energy (ft./sec.)

V_0 = initial velocity (ft./sec.)

M = fragment mass (gm.)

X = lethal range (yd.)

The initial fragment velocities of the three types of projectiles are as follows:

120mm Heavy Brandt - 5680 ft./sec.

120mm Light Brandt - 4900 ft./sec.

4"2 M329 - 5900 ft./sec.

8. ANALYSIS:

a. The cumulative number of fragments versus lethal range are listed in Table I and are plotted in graph form, Figure 2. The 120mm heavy Brandt produced more lethal fragments than both the 4"2 M329 and 120mm light Brandt projectiles. The 4"2 M329 produced more lethal fragments than the 120mm light Brandt at ranges up to 55 yards. At ranges greater than 55 yards, the converse is true.

Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

b. The numbers of fragments in weight groups are listed in Table II and the fragment velocity-weight-lethal range values for 58 foot-pounds energy are listed in Table III.

c. The 4"2 mortar projectile, being Composition B loaded, can be expected to produce a greater number of fragments at the shorter lethal ranges and a higher initial fragment velocity than if it were TNT loaded.

PART D

CONCLUSIONS

9. a. Of the three types of mortar projectiles evaluated, assuming similar fragment space distribution patterns, the order of lethal effectiveness is as follows:

- (1) From point of burst to 55 yards range:
 - (a) 120mm heavy Brandt
 - (b) 4"2 M329
 - (c) 120mm light Brandt
- (2) From 55 yards range to 250 yards range:
 - (a) 120mm heavy Brandt
 - (b) 120mm light Brandt
 - (c) 4"2 M329

b. It is understood that Aberdeen Proving Ground will conduct fragmentation tests of the 4"2 M329 Mortar, TNT loaded, and will make lethality studies of all three types of mortars at various burst heights.

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

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**U. S. NAVAL PROVING GROUND
DAHLGREN, VIRGINIA**

Twenty-Second Partial Report

on

Fragmentation of Projectiles and Warheads

Final Report

on

**Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329**

**Project No.: NPG-Re2c-35-1-52
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57AA-13717

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1st and 2nd March 1952
Morton Ammunition



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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

TABLE ICumulative No. of Mortar Fragments versus Lethal Range

(5 ROUND AVERAGES)

<u>4"2 M329</u>		<u>120mm Light Brandt</u>		<u>120mm Heavy Brandt</u>	
<u>No.</u>	<u>Range (Yards)</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Range (Yards)</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Range (Yards)</u>
2457	16	2147	12	3052	14
1948	27	1576	23	2169	26
1547	36	1169	38	1511	40
1033	50	808	59	933	64
375	76	495	90	502	95
177	94	244	130	218	138
94	111	78	178	77	196
31	137	7	265	30	276
11	212			10	385
6	307			1	531

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APPENDIX B

NTP-49326

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Security Information

3200

NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS
VERSUS
LETHAL RANGE

15 SEPTEMBER 1952

2900

- X 4.2 Mortar, M329
- 120mm Mortar, Light Brandt
- 120mm Mortar, Heavy Brandt

2600

2300

2000

1700

1400

1100

800

500

NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS

EUGENE DIETZGEN CO.
MAY 1952

DIETZGEN GRAPH PAPER
1000 PER INCH

12

24

36 48

60

72

84

LETHAL RANGE (YDS.)

Figure 2

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

TABLE II

No. of Mortar Fragments in Various Weight Groups(5 ROUND AVERAGES)

<u>4"2 M329</u>		<u>120mm Light Brandt</u>		<u>120mm Heavy Brandt</u>	
<u>Wt. Group (grams)</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Wt. Group (grams)</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Wt. Group (grams)</u>	<u>No.</u>
0.324-0.648	509	0.3-0.625	571	0.3-0.625	883
0.648-0.972	401	0.625-1.25	407	0.625-1.25	658
0.972-1.62	514	1.25-2.50	361	1.25-2.50	578
1.62-3.24	658	2.50-5.0	313	2.50-5.0	431
3.24-4.86	198	5.0-10	251	5.0-10	284
4.86-6.48	83	10-20	166	10-20	141
6.48-9.72	63	20-40	71	20-40	47
9.72-22.7	20	40-80	7	40-80	20
22.7-48.5	5			80-160	9
48.5+	6			160+	1

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APPENDIX C

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4"2 Mortar Shell M329

TABLE III

Fragment Weight-Velocity-Lethal Range Values
for 58 Foot-Pounds Energy

4"2 M329 I.V. - 5900 ft./sec.			120mm Light Brandt I.V. - 4900 ft./sec.			120mm Heavy Brandt. I.V. - 5680 ft./sec.		
Frag.	Wt. (grams)	Vel. (ft./sec.)	Frag.	Wt. (grams)	Vel. (ft./sec.)	Frag.	Wt. (grams)	Vel. (ft./sec.)
0.324	2280	16	0.30	2375	12	0.30	2375	14
0.648	1620	27	0.625	1647	23	0.625	1647	26
0.972	1320	36	1.25	1152	38	1.25	1152	40
1.62	1020	50	2.50	822	59	2.50	822	64
3.24	723	76	5.0	581	90	5.0	581	95
4.86	593	94	10	411	130	10	411	138
6.48	512	111	20	291	178	20	291	196
9.72	418	137	40	206	265	40	206	276
22.7	274	212				80	145	385
48.5	187	307				160	103	531

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Comparison of Lethal Fragments from
Brandt 120mm Mortar and 4½ Mortar Shell M329

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